



Office of the
United States
Global AIDS
Coordinator

COUNTRY PROFILE

HIV/AIDS

ZAMBIA

Zambia has a population of approximately 10 million people. The overall HIV prevalence is estimated to be 17.8 percent among females and 13 percent among males, thus the adult HIV prevalence is 16 percent. Populations thought to be at high risk include sex workers, members of the uniformed services, long-

distance truck drivers, minibus drivers, and orphans and other vulnerable children. The urban prevalence, 23.1 percent, is double that in rural areas. The Government of Zambia has just begun to provide antiretroviral drugs in the public sector. Among the challenges faced by the government are to increase availability and use of counseling and testing services, and to strengthen the health care system to expand delivery of antiretroviral therapy.

HIV/AIDS Epidemic in Zambia	
HIV Prevalence in Pregnant Women	19.1%
Estimated Number of HIV-Infected People (Central Statistics Office, 2004 estimate)	775,080 adults; 90,218 children
Estimated Number of Individuals on Antiretroviral Therapy (May 2004)	5,586
Estimated Number of AIDS Orphans (Central Statistics Office, 2004 estimates)	750,504

U.S. GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

In 2003, President George W. Bush announced the Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief, a five-year, \$15 billion U.S. Government initiative that aims to provide treatment to at least two million HIV-infected individuals, prevent seven million new HIV infections, and provide care and support to 10 million people living with and affected by HIV/AIDS, including orphans and vulnerable children. To help attain these goals, the U.S. Government is rapidly expanding its programs and engaging new partners in 15 focus countries, including Zambia. Under the Emergency Plan, Zambia in 2004 will receive \$57.9 million to support a comprehensive treatment, prevention, and care program.



Map of Zambia: PCL Map Collection, University of Texas

Treatment

The U.S. Government program will focus on scaling up antiretroviral therapy, focusing particularly on public health facilities, workplace HIV/AIDS programs, and efforts to dramatically improve the capacity of Zambia's laboratories to monitor treatment. The program will also determine trends and best practices, establish baseline data to help monitor progress, and develop an HIV/AIDS computerized tracking system for timely and efficient data collection.

Prevention

The U.S. Government program will expand prevention of mother-to-child HIV transmission services by supporting the national scale-up plan to make them more widely

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available through public, private, and faith-based efforts. The program will support programs for youth that encourage abstinence and faithfulness. It will address blood safety in the military facilities, and provide funding to the Corridors of Hope Project (Southern Africa Regional Project) to reach border and migrant populations. This will include prevention activities focused on sex workers, truck drivers, uniformed personnel, minibuss drivers, and moneychangers. The program also will support treatment of sexually transmitted infections, voluntary counseling and testing, and condom social marketing for those at heightened risk.

Care

The U.S. Government program will focus on making counseling and testing services more available. Support will continue to the Society for Family Health in scaling up private-sector counseling and testing services through the stand-alone New Start Clinics; the program will support further expansion in the public sector and among nongovernmental and faith-based organizations. A critical element of the U.S. program will be providing care for opportunistic infections, which offers an excellent entry point for identifying HIV-positive individuals, referring clients for antiretroviral therapy, and caring for those with coinfections such as tuberculosis. The program's support for home-based care also will be a critical component of care for people living with HIV/AIDS in Zambia.

Other

Strategic information activities will monitor progress toward targets, determine trends and identify best practices related to key program areas. The U.S. Government program will strengthen information flow to use data for decision making. Baselines will be established to monitor progress through a Health Facilities Survey, an AIDS Indicator Survey, a targeted seroprevalence survey of the armed forces, and a sentinel surveillance survey. Crosscutting activities will support strengthening of the Zambian public health system to effectively deliver services to prevent HIV/AIDS and opportunistic infections, and to provide treatment and care. Technical assistance, capacity building, training, planning, staffing, and logistics management will also be supported. Other support includes assistance to meet the structural needs of the health sector, creating a supportive policy and regulatory environment, and fostering grassroots community mobilization.

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